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T. B. BELK, PROPRIETOR "THE OLD RELIABLE STORE."

BILL ARP SCORES DEPEW.

He Takes Chaucer to Task for His Utterances About

BARBARA ERIETCHIE STORY

Depew Was Too Old To Be Playing Around His Mother's Knee in Those Times.

Whittier is dead, but his poetic license and slanders still live. He was as much a fanatic as old John Brown and no doubt old John imbibed from him his first lessons in hatred of the South and slavery. Whittier's poems are before me and thirty-seven of them are waiting for the slaves and malignant stings against the Southern statesmen, including Calhoun, and the Southern people. He was an intense secessionist and when Texas was admitted he prayed in verse for a yawning gulf to open and separate the North from the South. When Daniel Webster made his last and greatest speech at Cape Springs, in which he defended the South and declared that we had the right to withdraw from the union when we believed the federal compact had been broken, Whittier flew to his inkstand and wrote this of him:

"So fallen! So lost! The light withdrawn
Which once he wore;
The glory from his gray hairs gone
For evermore.
Let not the land once proud of him
Nor brand with deeper shame his dim
Insult him now,
Dishonored brow,
All else is gone; from those great eyes
The soul is fled,
When faith is lost and honor dies
The man is dead.
They pay the reverence of old days
To his dead fame;
Walk backward, with averted gaze
And hide his shame!"

That is part of the tribute he paid to the immortal Webster, the grandest figure in New England history. But I was not troubling myself about the gifted fanatic, I was ruminating about Chaucer Depew, who is not dead and who every little while bobs up serenely to get a little more fame as a humorist. It seems that when General Early passed through Frederick City, in Maryland, he paused long enough to exact from the good people the sum of \$200,000 for army purposes, for as Whittier wrote of them, they were "a famished horde," and now that city has applied to congress for a refunding of that money and one reason they give is that an old woman in her ninety-sixth year waved the union flag at the rebels and Stonewall Jackson ordered his men to fire at her and they fired and broke the window glass and riddled the flag and knocked it out of her hand and she picked it up and waved it again. That's the poetic yarn that Whittier told about Barbara Eriechie and a committee from Frederick City has been before congress and said it was so. Chaucer Depew heard it all and said it was worth \$200,000 to have the truth of the story established and he nodded his head approvingly and said that "old Barbara was one of the idols of his childhood, and when he played around his mother's knees his heart throbbled with sympathy for the gray-haired old woman whose patriotism defied the enemies of his country." The old Rip Van Winkle I reckon that is one of his latest jokes, for he was born in 1834, and was twenty-eight years old when our army was in Frederick City, and he was then playing around his mother's knees in the New York legislature.

Dr. J. William Jones, of Richmond, the highest authority on confederate history, has published in the March

number of the Confederate Veteran another exposure of this wanton malignant myth about Barbara Eriechie, and does so only because the poem has gotten into some Southern school-books and he wishes to brand with falsehood this vile slander on Stonewall Jackson. The whole miserable thing was investigated not at Washington, but on the spot at Frederick City, and it was established years ago that no Confederate troops passed in sight of the old woman's house; that no flag was waved; that Stonewall Jackson was not then with his troops, and that old Barbara was bed-ridden and paralyzed and could not have waved a flag if she had had one. The dame's nephew, Valerius Ebert, has published his certificate that the flag story is all a myth without the slightest foundation, and that his old aunt was at that time bed-ridden and had lost the power of locomotion. Ebert was there at the time, and was the administrator on her estate when she died and never heard of any flag, and yet one of the rascals who is after that money testified that he had the flag at home at his house. The very last curse in the Bible is against him who maketh or loveth a lie, and it makes no difference whether he is a poet, priest or senator, he will find himself in awful bad company in the world to come. Years ago this myth was exploded in the New York Sun while Dana was living, but now that he is dead it has come to light again in its columns. That paper's motto used to be "If you see it in the Sun it's so," but now if you see it in the Sun it's not so, would it fit better. I wish that every confederate soldier and their children and grandchildren would subscribe for the Veteran and keep up with the best memories of the Lost Cause—a cause for which we are still proud, for gets brighter and purer as the years roll on. Some months ago Dr. Andrews, the great educator, declared and published that every principle the South fought for had since been before the supreme court of the nation and decided in its favor—and recently a notable New England minister has declared that negro suffrage was a miserable blunder, and that the fifteenth and sixteenth amendments to the constitution should be repealed.

Well, time is a good doctor, and the South is on the upground. The Republican party may be re-elected, but the South cannot be worsted. The day will come when pensions and back pay will be given our old soldiers and our Confederate widows, and our Northern soldiers will take off their hats and apologize. We are trying hard at my home to be reconciled—to forget and forgive and be calm and serene when holding social intercourse with those who fit on the other side, and we get along pretty well as long as they meet us on halfway ground, but as for these vile slanderers who keep on lying and rubbing it in, we are very much like my lamented friend, George Adair, said about a preacher in whom he had no confidence: "Well, he may get to heaven, for the grace of God is very great, but if I get there I'll not hunt him up to say howdy—I don't want to live on the same street with him."—Bill Arp in Atlanta Constitution.

Greater New York can now claim to be the "city of parks." The area covered by them includes 7,564 acres. The two largest parks, situated in Bronx borough, are Pelham Bay Park of 1,756 acres, and Van Cortlandt Park of 1,332 acres. Central Park, Manhattan, has nearly 840 acres; Bronx Park, Bronx Borough, 661 3/5 acres; Brooklyn Forest Park, town of Jamaica, within the city limits, 335 acres, and Prospect Park, in Brooklyn 516 1/2 acres. The rest of a total of sixty-nine parks are considerably smaller, and 250 acres of Bronx Park are to be devoted to a botanical garden.

The Florists' Hall Association of the United States carries \$800,000 insurance on bothouses.

TERRIBLE FAMINE IN INDIA.

Frightful Suffering From Hunger and Disease.

MILLIONS OF PEOPLE STARVING

The Native States Dotted With Heaps of Dead and Dying—A Pitiful Description Sent by a Bombay Correspondent of the Scene at Ahmedabad.

London, By Cable.—The report that cholera is strengthening its deadly hold on famine-stricken India, brings the pitiful condition of that country more than ever to the public view. About 93,500,000 persons, for this is the population of the district affected, are sweltering their squalid existences away amid pestilence and misery that show no signs of abating. Hundreds of thousands of pounds in good British gold, good German marks and American coin, have been thrown into the country, but, judging from the latest advices, all this charity is merely a drop in the ocean. The famine and its attendant complications appear to exceed in virulence any previous visitations. The Viceroy, Lord Curzon, of Kedleston, and the government are making ceaseless exertions to meet the terrible emergency, but the stupendous difficulty confronting them prevent the present supplying of relief to more than 5,000,000. In the meantime the native states are dotted with heaps of dead and dying and the roads are crowded with ghastly bands seeking to escape from the stricken territories, but who, for lack of food and water, mostly succumb in the attempt. One of the most hopeless features of the whole affair is contained in the statement of a special correspondent at Simla, who writes: "Ten times the total relief could be laid out in a single district without fully relieving its distress. All we can hope for is a succession of good years to put the people on their legs again."

The British districts are reported to be so far escaping the large starvation and mortality that mark the native States. But that their condition is not enviable is evident from the following description sent by a Bombay correspondent of the scene at Ahmedabad, a city in the presidency of Bombay: "In an open space upwards of 200 were seated, old and young, being famine perished. The smell arising from their filthy rags was sickening, and had attracted myriads of flies. Some, especially the old men, were bony frame-works. A girl sucking two children was ghastly to look at, but the little ones, with hollow temples, sunken eyes and cheeks, and the nap of their necks falling in under their skulls, which seemed to overbalance their emaciated bodies, and with wisp-like arms and legs, were more dreadful still. Many were suffering from disease and numbers had the fever. Those who could work were sent on where tanks were being dug. They were given meat and passed on to the poor-house. This picture is from a less seriously affected part of the country. The sufferings in the remoter districts, where the famine is severe, where all the cattle have long since died, where the water is precious and where cholera has now added its dread scourge, can well be imagined."

Florida Sugar Company. Tampa, Fla., Special.—Northern capitalists, after thoroughly examining the lands in the vicinity of Tampa, organized a company for the purpose of planting sugar cane on a large scale, and refining the raw material. The organization, which is known as the South Florida Sugar Planting and Refining Company, has now received articles of incorporation, under the New Jersey laws.

Weekly Bank Statement. New York, Special.—The weekly bank statement shows the following changes: Surplus reserve decreased \$1,095,800; loans increased \$3,214,000; specie increased \$2,010,000; legal tenders increased \$1,166,500; deposits increased \$17,092,800; circulation increased \$89,800. The banks now hold \$15,978,475 in excess of the requirements of the 25 per cent. rule.

Otis Sails For Home. Manila, By Cable.—The United States transport Meade sailed for the United States at 5 o'clock Saturday afternoon with Major General Otis and two aides-de-camp on board. The warships in port fired a major general's salute as the steamer raised her anchor. The General's launch left the palace at 4 o'clock, carrying General Otis and General MacArthur's staffs to the Meade. The Fourteenth and Twentieth Infantry, drawn up ashore in front of the city wall presented arms, and the bands played "Auld Lang Syne" while a shore battery saluted.

MANY DEAD IN UTAH MINE.

Blasting Powder Explodes, Causing Great Loss of Life and Property.

SCORES OF BODIES RECOVERED.

The Disaster at Schofield, Utah—Pitiful Scenes at the Mouth of the Mine as the Dead Were Taken Out—Difficult Task of the Rescuers—The Wounded Taken to Salt Lake City.

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah (Special).—A terrible explosion occurred in the winter quarters of the Pleasant Valley Company's coal mine at Schofield, on the Rio Grande Western Railway, near Colton, Utah, by which over two hundred people were killed and many injured. Scores of bodies have been taken from the debris. The explosion is attributed to the blowing up of a number of kegs of blasting powder. The disaster appears to have been one of those accidents that are occasional to the most carefully regulated mines, and in spite of the best endeavors of the most competent superintendents. The State Mine Inspector is without the data to place the blame.

The scene before the mouth of the tunnel is pitiful, as usual in mining disasters, the weeping women and children waiting to see each man brought out of the mine on a stretcher. A special train conveyed the seriously wounded from Schofield to Salt Lake City.

Workers on the outside at 10:15 o'clock a. m. saw the entire top of the mountain over the tunnel lifted and heard a loud report. Great masses of stone and tall trees were hurled hundreds of feet in the air and fell in every direction, some of them half a mile from the mines. For many minutes debris fell, and then came complete silence.

While it was known that an awful catastrophe had occurred, the scope of the disaster was not at first appreciated. All the damage seemed to have been done in tunnel No. 4, but a hasty investigation showed that No. 1, which adjoins and connects with No. 4, had also been destroyed.

Telegrams were sent in every direction for help, and responses were prompt. Within an hour after the explosion a hundred men were swarming into the wreck, and more followed. Their light was against terrible odds, for the blast had let loose volumes of gas, which choked the rescuers and frequently compelled them to desert their efforts. Gradually, however, the air cleared away and the task became easier.

Most of the miners were Utah men with families. One man named Filson and his four sons were in the mine at the time of the explosion. The three sons were killed outright, and the father and other son fatally injured.

Among the known dead are Roger Davis, Jack Wilson, S. T. Evans, Pete Crockett, John Anderson, James Wilson, Will Winstead, Andrew Haddow and son.

STRIKES IN BUILDING TRADES. A General Movement Throughout the Country For Less Hours. NEW YORK CITY (Special).—Nearly nineteen thousand men went on strike in various parts of the country. Most of the strikers demanded an eight-hour day without a decrease in pay. Some even demanded the shorter day with increased pay. Others asked for more wages only. The building trades were most affected. Carpenters, plumbers, bricklayers and woodworkers were demanding the short work day with either the same or larger pay.

Moreover, railroad section men, trainmen, tinmiths, granite cutters and polishers, and other trades joined the May day movement. In Philadelphia a concerted movement was being made by all the building trades. The carpenters throughout the country were demanding eight hours' work and a higher wage scale. In many instances the employers granted the demands.

The police of Cleveland, O., were called upon to quell a riot in the Big Four yards. Twenty non-union ironworkers, repairing a bridge, were attacked by sixty members of the Structural Ironworkers' Union. Clubs, stones and pieces of iron were used by the combatants, and several of the participants received bad cuts and bruises. The police arrested the leaders.

GOVERNOR ALLEN INAUGURATED. First American Civil Governor of Porto Rico Takes the Oath of Office.

SAN JUAN, Porto Rico (By Cable).—The inauguration of Charles Herbert Allen, former Assistant Secretary of the Navy, as first American Civil Governor of Porto Rico, was most impressive and was attended by many pleasing incidents. The enthusiasm of the people was greater than expected.

Governor Allen took the oath of office at 10:30 a. m., under a flag canopy at the Executive Mansion.

The speech of General Allen, the retiring Governor-General, was full of feeling and expressed only the best wishes for the continued good conduct of the island. Governor Allen's reply was equally felicitous, although remarkably temperate. He addressed the attending crowds as "Fellow citizens of Porto Rico." This happy introduction won instant approval.

THE NEWS EPITOMIZED.

Washington Items.

Secretary Tago favors the establishment of a national standard bureau for the fixing of a standard for coinage, weights and measures.

Pensions for Mrs. Henry, Mrs. Gridley, and General Longstreet were voted by the Senate.

The Senate passed the Army Appropriation bill without division.

The "Free Homes" bill, passed by the House will take millions out of the Treasury in payment of money paid the Government for homestead lands.

The President has issued a proclamation extending for six months from April 11 the time allowed Spanish subjects in the Philippines to designate their allegiance in accordance with the Treaty of Paris.

The receipts of the Government for the month of April were \$45,029,326, an increase of \$3,427,739 over the same month last year, customs showing an increase of \$1,119,793 and internal revenue \$1,308,192.

United States Treasurer Roberts mailed 37,722 checks aggregating \$2,125,915, representing the interest due on May 1, 1900, on registered bonds of the five, four and three per cent. loans.

Our Adopted Islands. During five months ending November 29 last Porto Rico's exports were \$1,380,301; her imports, \$4,221,851.

The Hawaiian Government bill failed to provide for a Collector of Customs, and this omission will be remedied.

A census of Guam gives 8661 as the population of the island, of which 3128 are males over seven and 3680 females over seven.

Governor Leary, of Guam, sent an acknowledgment to the American people for their contributions of literature, etc., to the soldiers and citizens of that island.

Major-General Otis, Governor-General of the Philippines, has issued orders restricting Chinese immigration and making changes in the Criminal Code.

Many English and Americans from the Samoan islands surrendered to the Germans are looking to the American island from Apia. They will soon build a thriving town on Pago-Pago.

General Adna R. Chaffee has requested to be relieved as chief of staff to Governor-General Wood of Cuba.

The revenue gunboat Baracora has captured a British sloop off Batangas engaged in the sponge fishery. The vessel is now in charge of the customs authorities at Havana.

General Lloyd Wheaton reports that Senator Paterno, the former President of the Philippine Cabinet, has been captured in the mountains near Trinidad, province of Benguet.

Domestic. Admiral Dewey was greeted on his arrival in St. Louis, Mo., by an immense throng. Great enthusiasm was shown all along the route from Chicago.

Under the auspices of the Illinois Medical Association, about 300 doctors and their families from Illinois, Iowa and Missouri will visit the Paris Exposition in a body.

Henry M. Flagler, a Standard Oil magnate in New York City, asked to be relieved of the care of the person and estate of his wife, who is insane.

Sheriff W. H. Root was killed by lightning while riding through his cotton field near the town of Chester, S. C.

Fire swept the village of Grantsburg, Ill. Every business house in the town was destroyed except the postoffice and one saloon.

Two antique Chinese vases, valued at \$40,000, were seized at the French liner in New York City for alleged evasion of the customs laws.

Twenty-five thousand men employed by the Standard Oil Company all over the country have had their wages raised ten per cent. This means an additional outlay of \$1,500,000 a year.

Paul Nute, a laborer, was precipitated with tons of masonry into a hidden shaft in the wall of the Bryant Park reservoir, New York City, now being demolished.

Mrs. Margaret Frost was taken to jail at York, Neb., charged with complicity in the poisoning of her husband, Charles W. Frost. She has a son nine years old.

Kiowa and Comanche Indians on reservation in Oklahoma are in dire need of food. They are appealing to the Eastern States to help them before all tribes die of starvation.

Samuel D. Seeley, who, while a trusted employee of the National Shoe and Leather Bank in New York City, embezzled \$350,000, and was sent to the Kings County Penitentiary in 1895, to serve eight years, was released, having obtained the full commutation for good behavior.

Major-General Brooke was ordered to assume command of the Department of the East, General Merritt being relieved in his own request.

William Moran, nineteen years old, of Bloomfield, N. J., was taken to the Mountsinai Hospital suffering from what is termed "dry pleurisy," due to excessive cigarette smoking.

Dr. C. C. Todd, formerly of Kentucky, a brother-in-law of President Abraham Lincoln, died in Barrow, S. C.

Desk Sergeant Timothy S. O'Connell of the Woodhull Police Station was shot and instantly killed on the Eighteenth Street Viaduct in Chicago. The shooting is a mystery.

The state of Kansas will enter proceedings in the United States Supreme Court against the State of Arkansas to prevent the diversion of the Arkansas River from its natural channel by irrigating companies.

Mildred Preston, an astrologist, has been arrested on a charge of fraudulently securing \$800 from Miss Ethel Quinby, a young society woman of Grand Rapids, Mich.

William Bolivar, of New Upper Sandusky, Ohio, whose wife had left him, killed the woman and fatally shot himself.

MAN HUNT IN VERMONT.

Father and Son Taken by a Posse After Ten Days' Chase.

MANY SHOTS WERE EXCHANGED.

Dunstan and Frank Shaw Had Escaped From Jail—Killed a Deputy Sheriff in Their Flight—Hounded For Days Through the Woods by Armed Citizens—Son Was Seriously Wounded.

MIDDLEBURY, Vt. (Special).—Dunstan Shaw and his son, Frank, who escaped from Woodstock Jail on April 23, and who for days were hounded through the woods and mountains of Central Vermont by armed officers and citizens aided by bloodhounds, and who in the course of their flight killed Deputy Sheriff Hoffman of Windsor County, were captured in a swamp about four miles from Middlebury. They resisted the officers and citizens with Winchester, and fourteen or fifteen shots were exchanged, when Frank Shaw fell with two bullet wounds in his body and his father surrendered. The young man was wounded seriously. Both were weak from lack of food and exhaustion. Notably the searching party was hurt. The prisoners were brought to jail here pending further proceedings.

The Shaws had been tracked to the swamp by searchers who started from Middlebury upon receiving news that the men had stopped at a farmhouse a few miles from Middlebury to obtain food at about 2 o'clock a. m. In spite of the handicap of the later start, the pursuing party made good progress. They entered the woods near the Seely house, and began a systematic search of every part for traces of the fugitives. The Shaws were too good as woodsmen to leave a plain trail, so the only knowledge possessed by the pursuers was the statement that they had taken a westward course after obtaining food. In the forenoon what was thought to be traces of the men were discovered leading toward the northwest.

Following in this direction several of the searchers, with Deputy Sheriff Tinkham at their heels, came out into a pasture of the Middlebury swamp. There was much water in the swamp, and beyond it was a clear patch of open ground. The Shaws were seen slowly ascending a small hill.

Harrying forward Deputy Sheriff Tinkham shouted to the men to surrender. In reply the fugitives immediately raised their guns. Without waiting for further demonstration the firing was begun. More than a dozen shots were exchanged before anybody was hit, and a moment later Frank Shaw fell. This seemed to take the courage out of the older man and he ceased firing. Tinkham hastened to where the man lay, followed closely by the others of his party, and in the moment had handcuffs on the older Shaw. The young man lay on the ground with blood marking two wounds, one in the arm and the other in the body near the heart. The capture caused much satisfaction among those who have participated in the chase day and night. The news that the Shaws had been taken aroused great excitement in town and hundreds of people witnessed the arrival of the officers with the prisoners and followed them to jail.

BRITISH ADVANCE ON PRETORIA. General Roberts Takes an Important Position With Slight Loss.

LONDON (By Cable).—The British have captured Brandfort. The town was taken by a combined movement of Colonel Tucker's and General Pollock-Carew's divisions on the east and center and General Hutton's mounted infantry on the west. The British surprised the Boers, who retreated hastily. Four thousand of the enemy had taken station there to oppose the British advance. Colonel Tucker had a dozen shots were exchanged before anybody was hit, and a moment later Frank Shaw fell. This seemed to take the courage out of the older man and he ceased firing. Tinkham hastened to where the man lay, followed closely by the others of his party, and in the moment had handcuffs on the older Shaw. The young man lay on the ground with blood marking two wounds, one in the arm and the other in the body near the heart. The capture caused much satisfaction among those who have participated in the chase day and night. The news that the Shaws had been taken aroused great excitement in town and hundreds of people witnessed the arrival of the officers with the prisoners and followed them to jail.

We occupied Brandfort without opposition and with the hope, I hope, casualties. The First Brigade of an infantry covered the left flank of the tenth Brigade of the Seventh D and the right flank was supported by the Fifth Brigade.

The Boer's division advanced a mile and a half, the Boer's, who under command of Delarey, retired northwesterly direction.

The position is the key to one main road leading to the Drake Passes, which possibly may be the key of cooperation with General Buller. It provides an advance base of 6 miles, and at the same time menaces Boers now southeast of Bloemfontaine.

SENATE PASSES ARMY BILL. It Makes Miles a Lieutenant-General Corbin a Major-General.

WASHINGTON, D. C. (Special).—The Reorganization bill has been passed Senate. Only one vote was taken in all and that on the promotion of G. Miles, to be a Lieutenant-General, were only eight nays. The amen giving to Adjutant-General Corbin of Major-General was passed without division.

The new system is not applied Corps of Engineers, Medical Department, or Judge Advocate General's Department.

The bill discontinues the regiment organization of the artillery and establish an artillery corps of two branches, 125 batteries of coast artillery and six batteries of field artillery, with a total of 17,418 men. It provides for an increase of 100 in the corps of Cadets in West two at large from each State and ten to the present number of twenty in United States at large.

CONSTITUTION OVER PORTO. Judge Lochren Decides Island is a Legal Part of United States.

ST. PAUL, Minn. (Special).—Judge Lochren, in the United States Circuit Court, ruled that the Porto Rican, to Stillwater prison. In denying O'plea for liberty Judge Lochren has chief objection on the fact that the t of Paris "opens" for some time, own the date of its ratification.

In his decision Judge Lochren held that the Porto Rican Constitution is an integral part of the United States and that the Federal Constitution upon ex proprio rigore, extended over island and its people.